

Daily GLOWBUGS

Digest: V1 #118

via AB4EL Web Digests @ SunSITE

Purpose: building and operating vacuum tube-based QRP rigs

[AB4EL Ham Radio Homepage @ SunSITE](#)

%%%% GlowBugs %%%%% GlowBugs %%%%% GlowBugs %%%%% GlowBugs %%%%%

Subject: glowbugs V1 #118

glowbugs

Tuesday, September 23 1997

Volume 01 : Number 118

Date: Mon, 22 Sep 1997 12:44:25 -0500

From: ac5am@juno.com (Robert L Stolzle)

Subject: Looking for Glowbug/BA QSO's

To All Glowbuggers and BA ops,

I've been looking for some qso's with my Conar one tuber on 7050.

Did have a few good Q's with Jack, W7QQQ.

Sure would like others to jump in there. I am usually listening if not calling or in QSO with someone.

7050 khz... 4pm to 7pm most every day. Will also be on 3579.5 khz after 7:30pm most every day except Mon and Tue

Still waiting on the 80m Crystals from group buy with CW Crystals.

See y'all on the bands, Bob AC5AM

Date: Mon, 22 Sep 1997 13:55:07 -0500

From: Conard Murray <cfm5723@ntech.edu>

Subject: October is officially Regen Month

Hey guys and gals,

Boy am I disappointed.

I thought that I would be covered in email suggesting ideas for my proposed 'circuit of the month' idea. I got a total of four replies ... all positive at least ... and a lot of silence.

There has been more tube talk on grp-l than here lately.

I was hoping to spark some interest by having the gang here all work on a

common form of circuit each month and possibly end the whole thing with an informal qso party style contest. At least I didn't get flamed! Since there are at least a few interested, I will designate October as regen detector month. Participants will build any sort of tube-based regen detector and tell us all about it. Participants are encouraged to solicit whatever help and parts from other list members. There is no limit to however simple or complex the circuit chosen may be or what waves it covers. Photos are encouraged and I can make some space available for show-and-tell. Let's get going....
73 and ZUT,
de Conard WS4S

Date: Mon, 22 Sep 1997 13:47:34 -0500
From: ac5am@juno.com (Robert L Stolzle)
Subject: Re: Looking for Glowbug/BA QSO's

Natchitoches, LA

Central Time Zone

AC5AM

Date: Mon, 22 Sep 1997 15:43:04 -0400 (EDT)
From: EWoodman@aol.com
Subject: Re: October is officially Regen Month

Sounds like a plan to me. Maybe by Straight Key Night everyone will be on the air with an OT station. Great way to usher in the New Year. Good excuse for me to rebuild my regen and dust off the Hartley's!

73 Eric K1YRV

Date: Mon, 22 Sep 1997 17:12:35 -0500
From: "Claton Cadmus" <aplitech@spacestar.net>
Subject: Junk Box Challenge!

Ok, here we go....finally. Sorry for the delay but work comes first, at least for now.

For those that may not have seen or remember the original message here's how it works. I've gathered up all my excess "glowbuggy" stuff around here and I'm challenging the list to design a useful piece of equipment/radio/transmitter/transceiver with all or part of the stuff. I'll be the final decision maker and of course the builder, but the designing is up to the list. Most certainly there will be stuff I'll need to buy, but the limit is 20 bucks. I hoping that this can be fun for everyone and an inspiration for someone to follow with the excess when we're done. Also, the finished project will be photographed and featured on a web page so all can see the results.

First, small story...

For Field Day we needed a 6 meter antenna. I whipped up a two element "porta" quad of my own design(translated: "I built it out of what I could find"). I think it cost me all of three bucks and a walk though my garage and look-see in ye old junk box. (Which around here others call the basement!) Well darned if the thing didn't work great, came in right on frequency and even weathered a heck of a storm and 50 mile per hour gusts. The thing is to good not to use, and I've even got a rotor somewhere, BUT I have no 6 meter equipment. Hint, hint, nudge, nudge!

Here's my list:

Tubes all tested good on my newly acquired TV-7 tube tester:

Type followed by quantity,

1V2	2
6AM8A	1
6AL5	2
6AU6A	1
6AU8A	2
6AK6	1
6BA6	2
6BQ5	1
6BL8	1
6BN4	2
6C4	1
6CG8	1
6DT6	1
6EA8	3
6EJ7	2
6H6	1
6T8A	1
6X4	2
12AU7	7
12AX7	3
12AQ5	1
12CA5	1
19AU4	1 (GTA)
2050A	5
21LU8	1
5763	2
807	2 (Maybe)

Transformers:

117/6.3v 5 amps
117/48ct 8 amps (This one is huge!)
117/24vct 8 amps
117/ from an old 50's vintage TV.

I just tested this, here's the voltages all no load.

Red pair with yellow CT 600V

Green pair 5V

Enameled pair 7V

Black pair 117v primary I assume.

I seem to recall some posting that HV transformers

of this vintage followed some sort of color code on the wires. If that's true do I have it right?

Also have a pile of smaller transformers, most 12.6v stuff.

One old tube type CB (Cobra CAM88) chassis with transformer values unknown.

Well that's the important stuff, I've got some HV caps but not a lot.

Resistors should be no problem.

OK there's the line up, what should we build!

- ----

73 de KA0GKC Claton Cadmus
E-mail cla@spacestar.net
If you live in Minnesota check out this webpage!
<http://www.spacestar.net/users/aplitech/mngrp/>

Date: Mon, 22 Sep 1997 21:14:07 -0400
From: "Brian Carling" <bry@mnsinc.com>
Subject: A pity - BA Reflector about to die for lack of use

It's amazing that people would rather pay \$15.00 per year than use a FREE BA reflector service!!

Only in America I guess....

=====
Forwarded message begins:

Date sent: Mon, 22 Sep 1997 12:33:19 -0700
Send reply to: "Kelley, Dave" <Dave_Kelley@TEMPE.GOV>
From: "Kelley, Dave" <Dave_Kelley@TEMPE.GOV>
Subject: Tempe BA List - Time to Shut Down?
To: BOATANCHORS@LISTSERV.TEMPE.GOV

Hi gang..

Many months ago I brought this list up as a free option to the 'pay per post' boatanchors list.... The idea was, if people wanted to start using a free list they had a chance to here.

Looking at the activity and double postings it's obvious that this list is not needed and in respect for the bandwidth I'd like to shut it down. Most who are signed up just don't want to miss anything - hence they see it twice in 90% of the cases. Maybe I'm wrong?

If I get strong feedback to keep it, I'll leave it up. No feedback and I'll bring it down. Give it some thought before a reply. I'll shut it down next Monday if it's a 'don't care' situation.

Of course the Collins and Heath lists (that we host) are healthy and have daily postings so those will remain for as long as they

are needed regardless of the BA list here.

73 all and enjoy the glow!

Dave
AI7R

- - - - -
To unsubscribe from BOATANCHORS please send a message
to listserv@listserv.tempe.gov and in the body include
 signoff BOATANCHORS
Archives of the BOATANCHORS list is available at
 http://www.tempe.gov/archives

Date: Mon, 22 Sep 1997 22:00:20 -0400
From: "Brian Carling" <bry@mnsinc.com>
Subject: BA fun list!!

This will probably be of interest to a number of folks here!

What is a "BOATANCHOR" ??

Note the spelling. It is NOT Boat Anchor!!

Older radio equipment. Military transmitters and receivers particularly seem to weigh a TON!
Older amateur radio equipment is quite often described as a "B.A." or a boatanchor. Heaby, no one wants it! It may need repair. So the average appliance operator will not mess with it. That UNUSUAL guy among unusual hobbyists is the "BA OP" who loves to shine the front panel of a GLOBE KING or a an R-390A!! There are thousands of them out there! They lurk at hamfests and in basements!

The BAs themselves are old, dusty, and they GLOW IN THE DARK!! Because they use tubes and heavy iron. They get the job done in a noble way! They sound "FB on AM, OM!!" They simply SING on CW!

The people who love and collect these old beasts have a number of haunts on the web! Among them a FREE Reflector at TEMPE jsut called Boatanchors, or informally known to some as "Free Boatanchors."

No they don't always have FREE RADIOS, but it is a FREE list as opposed to being a PAY list like the other one!

So, IF you would like to try the FREE LIST, here is how to subscribe:

Simply send a message to:
LISTSERV@LISTSERV.TEMPE.GOV

with NO SUBJECT, and the text:

subscribe boatanchors <your full name>
as in " Joe H. Smith"

Alternatively, if you want to subscribe
anonymously, send the command: "SUBSCRIBE BOATANCHORS

Anonymous". Your subscription will then be hidden automatically.

Jump on in!!

=====

Enjoy!! 73 de AF4K, Bry

Date: Mon, 22 Sep 1997 22:21:21 -0400

From: benb27@juno.com (Ben C Bradley)

Subject: Re: A pity - BA Reflector about to die for lack of use

Ben Bradley benb27@juno.com

On Mon, 22 Sep 1997 21:14:07 -0400 "Brian Carling" <bry@mnsinc.com> writes:

>It's amazing that people would rather pay \$15.00 per year than use a
>FREE BA reflector service!!

>

>Only in America I guess....

>

>=====

>Forwarded message begins:

> {snip}

>To unsubscribe from BOATANCHORS please send a message

>to listserv@listserv.tempe.gov and in the body include

> signoff BOATANCHORS

> Archives of the BOATANCHORS list is available at

> <http://www.tempe.gov/archives>

So to subscribe I send a message to that address and in the body say:

signon BOATANCHORS

? I'm already on too many mailing lists, but I'm about to try it.

Ben Bradley benb27@juno.com

Date: Tue, 23 Sep 1997 06:55:14 -0400

From: "Brian Carling" <bry@mnsinc.com>

Subject: New sources of CRYSTALS!

"Surplus Al" says:

I am very Big in Crystals. 100K in stock.

Getting list ready to post on my WEB pages.

<http://www.qsl.net/w3ugd> Home page

<http://mh101.infi.net/~surplsal>

73 Al W3UGD Surplus Al

Al Yascavage "SURPLUS AL"

P.O. Box 215

Hunlock Creek, PA 18621

xtal sockets.

Phone number needed

Crystals for sale. Also has

For MANY other sources of crystals, see:

<http://www.mnsinc.com/bry/mega/xtals.htm>

ENJOY!! 73 de AF4K, Bry

*** 73 from Radio AF4K/G3XLQ Gaithersburg, MD USA *

** E-mail to: bry@mnsinc.com *

*** See the interesting ham radio resources at: *

** <http://www.mnsinc.com/bry/> *

AM International #1024, TENTEN #13582. GRID FM19

Rigs: Valiant, DX-60/HG-10, Eldico TR-75, Millen 90810

FT-840, TM-261, Ameco TX-62, Gonset Communicator III

HTX-202...TEN-TEN #13582, DXCC #17,763 Bicentennial WAS

Date: Tue, 23 Sep 1997 08:08:22 +0000

From: **rwilcox** <rwilcox@newton.cacky.com>

Subject: **Hammarlund HQ-170**

All

Would anyone be willing to copy their HQ-170 schematic
and mail to

Gary Wilcox KE4VUN
5292 Lane Road
Owensboro, Ky. 42303

Please let me know what the copy and shipping costs are and I will
gladly send money :-)

73's Gary

Gary Wilcox (KE4VUN)

Commonwealth Aluminum

Date: Tue, 23 Sep 1997 11:54:34 -0400 (EDT)

From: **leeboo@ct.net** (Leon Wiltsey)

Subject: **re much sadness**

Hi gang

Went over to tv shop and got a handfull of electrolyits.

Hooked several up to test bench 300 volt power supply

as that is what the rec. b+ is.and checked ripple, all caps

were rated at 450v. Left them hooked up over night. Scope

showed they reduced ripple and vom showed no leakage.

Guess I will rewire circuit today using these caps. Will let you
know the outcome.73 73 73

THANK THE LORD FOR ALL YOU HAVE

68 yr old semidisabled senior
(stroke got my balance & hand to eye coordination)
ham agn as KF4RCL TECK+ (MUCH HAPPINESS)
BUILD MOST STATION EQUIP
SUB.BA & GB-- NO SOLID STATE

LEON B WILTSEY (Lee) tel. 941 471 3739
4600 Lake Haven BLVD.
Sebring, Fl. 33872 (SEBRING) WHERE THERE IS NO QRM FROM THE LOCALS

Date: 23 Sep 1997 09:37 CDT
From: "Richard Crapse" <rwcrapse@nortel.ca>
Subject: re:October is officially Regen Month

Ok, I am new to the tube scene. Been learning slowly, How about a 6L6 rig with solid state vfo tuning? I know I have the basic circuit for the 6L6, but the VFO is out of my technical expertise. Also, I have some 1625's (12v 807's) that could use a project or two.

Rick
KB4TKQ
monitors in the Novice section because I onlyu have privledges there currently

Date: Tue, 23 Sep 97 8:56:00 MDT
From: "Mark Dittmar" <Mark_Dittmar@maxtor.com>
Subject: 160m conversion

I have an old AM superhet (455 khz IF) that I am thinking about converting to a CW/SSB RX for 160m instead of cannabilizing for parts. The tube complement consists of 1A7GT, 1Q5GT, and the rest 1N5GT. My plan is to modify the RF amp tuned circuit, disable the AGC, and add a BFO (probably a Colpitts circuit), using another 1N5GT. My question is concerning the BFO; some of the old ARRL handbooks show injection of the BFO signal directly into the diode detector following the last IF amp. This is what I would probably try with the superhet. In the typical communications RX, the BFO is injected into a product detector. Has anyone on the list tried this kind of circuit modification before ? How well will it work ? Any other suggestions ?

Thanks...

Date: Tue, 23 Sep 1997 12:11:23 -0400
From: "Ornitz, Barry L" <ornitz@eastman.com>
Subject: RE: 160m conversion

Mark Dittmar, Dittmar@maxtor.com, wrote:
>My question is concerning the BFO; some of the old ARRL handbooks show
>injection of the BFO signal directly into the diode detector following the
>last IF amp. This is what I would probably try with the superhet. In the

>typical communications RX, the BFO is injected into a product detector. Has
>anyone on the list tried this kind of circuit modification before ? How well
>will it work ? Any other suggestions ?

>
>

An ordinary diode detector will work fine as a product detector as long
as the BFO injection voltage is 10 to 20 times the signal voltage
applied to the detector. Your biggest problem will be with the AVC
since with SSB there is no carrier for the AVC to work with. Audio
derived AVC works fairly well with simple receivers so you might
consider this.

73, Barry L. Ornitz WA4VZQ
> ornitz@tricon.net

Date: Tue, 23 Sep 1997 14:08:43 +0100
From: BOB DUCKWORTH <bob@atl.org>
Subject: Re: October is officially Regen Month

Conard-
I've been kind busy mesising with my tower but think this is an excellent
idea.
I'll try to get a regen cranking around a single old pencil tube and
some
batteries. Maybe in one of those mint boxes they keep talking about on
grp-l
I also want to talk to BABOB if you're around re: shifting the list to
the
mail machine here as an experiment. If you're reading, write me. I'll
stick in a
glowbugs dedicated disk and fix the mx record so the address doesn't
change.
I thought the www machine would be more reliable as it's closer to the
network core but turns out that it's use for so much www and real audio
stuff
sorta cancels that out.
- -bob

Conard Murray wrote:

>
> Hey guys and gals,
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> Let's get going....

> 73 and ZUT,
> de Conard WS4S

Date: Tue, 23 Sep 1997 10:42:27 -0700 (PDT)
From: Ken Gordon <keng@uidaho.edu>
Subject: RE: 160m conversion

> applied to the detector. Your biggest problem will be with the AVC
> since with SSB there is no carrier for the AVC to work with. Audio

Also because the diode detector, which in simple receivers is also the AVC rectifier, sees the BFO signal as a good source of AVC voltage and since the BFO signal is SO strong, the resulting AVC voltage pulls the receiver sensitivity way down, so you must disable the AVC for CW and SSB.

Ken W7EKB

Date: Tue, 23 Sep 1997 12:35:42 -0500
From: ges@praxis.ppc.com (Glen Stockton K5UP)
Subject: solid state vfo + 6L6

I just put together a hybrid rig with solid state vfo and two 6L6s. The circuit is much like one I found on the internet somewhere (6L6 osc and 6L6 amp). This was a an article from a 1947 QST if I remember correctly. The vfo is one I made almost a year ago and is probably similar to the 'standard' ones found in qrp literature. You know, mpf102 or 4416 fet plus a couple of 2n2222s. It has a 10-15 kc offset. I replaced the crystal in the original circuit with a tuned circuit (toroid & var cap) with about 3 turns of primary going to the vfo output.

The first iteration used only one 6L6 and the little vfo didn't seem to have enough horsepower, so I put in the other 6L6 to drive the first.

I have made about 15 contacts so far with good reports as far as clicks/chirps, etc. The rig runs 5 watts on 40M. It will do more if I up the B+, but I haven't tried more power.

I would encourage you to experiment with the hybrid setup, although I haven't found much literature on how to interface tubes and transistors.

- -----
Glen Stockton K5UP K5UP@mail.com

End of glowbugs V1 #118

%%%% GlowBugs %%%%% GlowBugs %%%%% GlowBugs %%%%% GlowBugs %%%%%

[AB4EL Ham Radio Homepage @ SunSITE](#)

Created by **Steve Modena, AB4EL**
Comments and suggestions to **modena@SunSITE.unc.edu**
